

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for communicating the consequences of a user preference setting on one or more related components regarding the performance of an information handling system, comprising:

displaying a first component control for a first component regarding the performance of a first aspect of the information handling system, the first component control operable to effect a user preference setting concerning the first ~~selected~~ component;

displaying an operating status for a second component regarding the performance of a second aspect of the information handling system, the performance of the second aspect related to the performance of the first aspect such that component, the operating status of the second component results resulting from effecting the user preference setting on the first component;

displaying to a user a user interface for locking the user preference setting for the first component at a selected performance level setting within a first range of performance level settings; and

displaying a second component control for the second component, the second component control allowing the user to ~~to~~ change the operation of the second component to any of the performance level settings within a first range of performance level settings for the second component if the user preference setting for the first component is not locked by the user;

for a particular performance level setting of the first component, calculating a second range of performance level settings for the second component that will allow the particular performance level setting of the first component to be achieved, the second range of performance level settings for the second component comprising a subset of the first range of performance level settings for the second component; and

if the user preference setting for the first component is locked at the particular performance level setting for the first component by the user:

allowing the user to change, via the second component control, the operation of the second component to any setting within a the second range of performance level settings for the second component calculated to allow the particular performance level setting of the first component to be achieved smaller than the first range of settings if the user preference setting for the first component is locked by the user; and
restricting the user from changing, via the second component control, the operation of the second component to any setting outside the second range of performance level settings for the second component calculated to allow the particular performance level setting of the first component to be achieved.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising displaying an operating status for the first component and each related component, the operating status of each related component reflecting the consequences of effecting the user preference setting on the first component.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising determining the operating status of the second component resulting from effecting the user preference setting on the first component based on user defined component relationships.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising determining the operating status of the second component resulting from effecting the user preference setting on the first component based on component behavior observed during operation of an information handling system.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising displaying a plurality of component controls, each of the plurality of component controls corresponding to a respective component and operable to effect a user preference setting on its respective component.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
adjusting the component control for the second component substantially
simultaneously with an adjustment of the first component control for the first component.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising
communicating the user preference setting to a device manager, the device manager operable
to adjust operation of the first component in accordance with the user preference setting.

8. **(Currently Amended)** An information handling system, comprising:
a memory;
a processor operably coupled to the memory;
a plurality of components operably coupled to the memory and the processor, each
component having an operating status;
a display device operably coupled to the memory and the processor; and
a program of instructions storable in the memory and executable by the processor, the
program of instructions operable to:

display the operating status for a first component **regarding the performance
of a first aspect of the information handling system;**

receive user input for a desired modification in operation for the first
component;

determine the operating status for each **of one or more** operationally linked
**component components regarding the performance of other aspects of the information
handling system** resulting from the modification in operation for the first component **based
on relationships between the performance of the first aspect of the information handling
system associated with the first component and the performance of each other aspect of
the information handling system associated with the operationally linked components;**

~~display on the display device the operating status for the first component
and at least one operationally linked component;~~

receive user input for locking the operating status of the first component **at a
selected performance level setting within a first range of performance level settings;**

allow user input for a desired modification in operation for a second component to any of the performance level settings within a first range of performance level settings for the second component if the operating status of the first component is not locked by the user; **and**

for a particular performance level setting of the first component, calculate a second range of performance level settings for the second component that will allow the particular performance level setting of the first component to be achieved, the second range of performance level settings for the second component comprising a subset of the first range of performance level settings for the second component; and if the user preference setting for the first component is locked at the particular performance level setting for the first component by the user;

allow user input for a desired modification in operation for **a the** second component to any setting within **a the** second range of performance level settings for the second component calculated to allow the particular performance level setting of the first component to be achieved ~~smaller than the first range of settings if the operating status of the first component is locked by the user; and~~

restrict user input for modifying the operation of the second component to any setting outside the second range of performance level settings for the second component calculated to allow the particular performance level setting of the first component to be achieved.

9. (Original) The information handling system of Claim 8, further comprising the program of instructions operable to define the operational links between components.

10. (Original) The information handling system of Claim 9, further comprising the program of instructions operable to ascertain configuration of the information handling system to define the operational links between components.

11. (Original) The information handling system of Claim 9, further comprising the program of instructions operable to define the operational links between components in accordance with user supplied parameters.

12. (Original) The information handling system of Claim 9, further comprising the program of instructions operable to calculate the effects resulting from the modification in operation according to the defined operational links.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Original) The information handling system of Claim 8, further comprising the program of instructions operable to display a plurality of performance controls, the performance controls operable to effect a modification in operation of an associated component and display the operating status for one or more components related to each performance controls.

15. (Original) The information handling system of Claim 8, further comprising the program of instructions operable to implement the modification in operation.

16. (Original) The information handling system of Claim 8, further comprising the program of instruction operable to substantially simultaneously display the operating status for the first component, receive the desired modification in operation for the first component, and display on the display device the operational status for the first component and at least one operationally linked component.

17. (Previously Presented) The information handling system of Claim 14, further comprising the performance control representing a component control for a software module, the software module responsible for controlling a plurality of operationally linked component parameters.

18. **(Currently Amended)** A computer program, stored on a tangible storage medium, for use in communicating the effects of user preference settings in an information handling system, the program including executable instructions that cause a computer to:

define relationships between a plurality of information handling system components regarding various aspects of the performance of the information handling system, including relationships between the performance of a first aspect of the information handling system associated with a first configurable information handling system component and the performance of a second other aspect of the information handling system associated with a second configurable information handling system component;

display at least one performance control, the performance control operable to effect at least one desired change in operation of ~~a~~ the first configurable information handling system component regarding the performance of the first aspect of the information handling system;

receive, through the at least one performance control, a desired change in operation of the first configurable information handling system component regarding the performance of the first aspect of the information handling system;

calculate, based on the defined relationships, effects on ~~one or more related the~~ second configurable information handling system components regarding the performance of the second aspect of the information handling system resulting from the desired change in operation of the first configurable information handling system component;

~~display an operating status for the related information handling system components resulting from effecting the desired change;~~

display to a user a user interface for locking the operation of the first configurable information handling system component at a selected performance level setting within a first range of performance level settings;

allow the user to change the operation of a second configurable information handling system component to any of the performance level settings within ~~a~~ the first range of performance level settings for the second configurable information handling system component if the operation of the first configurable information handling system component is not locked by the user;

for a particular performance level setting of the first configurable information handling system component, calculate a second range of performance level settings for the second configurable information handling system component that will allow the particular performance level setting of the first configurable information handling system component to be achieved, the second range of performance level settings for the second configurable information handling system component comprising a subset of the first range of performance level settings for the second configurable information handling system component; and

if the user preference setting for the first configurable information handling system component is locked at the particular performance level setting for the first configurable information handling system component by the user:

allow the user to change the operation for the a second configurable information handling system component to any setting within a the second range of performance level settings for the second configurable information handling system component calculated to allow the particular performance level setting of the first configurable information handling system component to be achieved ~~smaller than the first range of settings if the operation of the first configurable information handling system component is locked at by the user; and~~

restrict the user from changing the operation of the second configurable information handling system component to any setting outside the second range of performance level settings for the second configurable information handling system component calculated to allow the particular performance level setting of the first configurable information handling system component to be achieved.

19. (Original) The computer program of Claim 18, further operable to display a performance control for each configurable information handling system component.

20. (Original) The computer program of Claim 19, further operable to simultaneously display the operating status of each information handling system component related to the configurable information handling system components.

21. (Original) The computer program of Claim 18, further operable to define the relationships between the plurality of information handling system components based on performance data for the current information handling system configuration.

22. (Cancelled)